

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
February 3, 2011 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Bill Swift, Chris Massa, Tanya Perry, Jane Godager, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Gabriel Gonzales, May Farr, Veatrice Jews, Roberto Casas, Jane Mercer, Monica Wilson, and Talli Simmons on behalf of Supervisor Neil Derry.

Excused Absent: David Ford, Tom Rivera, Michael Hill, Monica Alonso

Guests:

CaSonya Thomas, Assistant Director; Debi Pasco Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission; Dianna Lee, Field Representative for Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Second District; Carl Alban, Director Department of Architecture and Engineering; Larissa Guinn, Erma Venable, Pacific Clinics Rancho Transitional Age Youth (TAY); Dr. W. Harper, Patrick McKinstry, RPIAAC-The LeBaron Group; William Ford, A&E, Wayne Henkelmann, SBC Court Mental Health Counselor; Karen Cervantes, Crystal Jones-Ramos, Heather Cockerill, Department of Public Health; Gwen Knotts, Knotts Family Parenting Institute; Matthew Thompson, William Padilla, Joshua Leslie, Jerry Gill, Paul Bailey, TAY members; Lionel M. Johnson, Virginia Macy, Leslie Ford, Dr. Chris Esteves, Public; Mariann Ruffolo, Maria Coronado, David Denkers, Dennis Terrones, Veronica Kelley, Jason Hill, Emily Jernigan, Ronald Smith, Paula Rutten, Larisa Crosno, Doug Fazekas, Andy Gruchy, Benita Ramsey, Sonia Rubio, Lisa McGinnis, Jatin Dalal, Crista Wentworth, Liz Galvan, Doris Turner, Linda Porter, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Manuel Aybar, Susanne Kulesa, Michele Dusick, Lynn Neuenswander, Lauretta Ross, Mariann Ruffolo, DBH

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. Self introductions followed.

Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Commission, announced Supervisor Janice Rutherford reappointed May Farr and Monica Alonso to the Behavioral Health Commission, Second District on 2/8/11.

The members of the Commission approved today's agenda. Behavioral Health Commission minutes of 1/6/11 were approved as written.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Karen Cervantes, Health Education Specialist I for the Department of Public Health was selected for the February 2011 Cultural Competency Award of Excellence. She has worked 6 years in the HIV Program providing one on one clinical education and community presentations. Karen is currently in MPA program at CSUSB.

Nomination:

Karen is a health educator for the HIV program. She has always treated patients with respect and dignity. She is passionate about educating patients about the various topics of HIV and has the skill to teach and reach out to people of different ages, gender, sexual preference, and ethnicity. Karen is able to build rapport with diverse clients because she establishes rapport with them and she makes a human connection. An example of her dedication to cultural competency is that Karen is non-judgmental of clients or sexual preferences, despite her own beliefs. When speaking of sensitive sexual topics of education her saying is "don't yuck someone else's yum" in a group setting. This way everyone feels safe and comfortable to share thoughts without being judged.

Congratulations Karen!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel stated the Fifth District Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting held on 1/25/11 at New Hope Family Life Center in San Bernardino was well attended and interactive. Discussion items included:

- FY 2010-11 MHSA Annual Update
- Achieve a balance for local community based organizations to participate in Request for Proposal (RFP) process; start-up cost issue.

Assistant Director, CaSonya Thomas thanked Commissioners Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager and Susan McGee-Stehsel for their participation at the DAC meeting. As DBH reaches out to San Bernardino County local organizations with capacity building, we will explore criteria for financing options. Your success is a community success!

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Bill Swift stated the goal of DAC meetings is to get people together, share knowledge and learn from mistakes. The 1st DAC has been working with multiple agencies in the High Desert regarding crisis intervention for kids. All school districts will know who to call when students are in crisis. Bill commended Victor Community Support Services, Telecare Crisis Walk In Center, NAMI, SELPA, and DBH Victor Valley Behavioral Health and Barstow Community Counseling for being actively involved in the community and providing well run mental health services in the High Desert.

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales attended the Open House for the Family Resource Center. He was greeted warmly and provided a tour of the facility. When Gabriel was recognized for his artwork, which appears annually in the consumer calendar, he donated a selection of his artwork to the newly opened facility.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr attended the Martin Luther King breakfast and the Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) walk. She attended the Victor Community Resource Center Open House which will be well used and much needed in the High Desert. Dianna Lee, Field Representative for Supervisor Janice Rutherford is very interested in the community and attended the recent 2nd/4th DAC meeting. May stated that Cliff Allenby, Acting Director and Stan Bajorin of the California Department of Mental Health attended the quarterly Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission in Sacramento. As a member of the Consensus Committee, May announced the new Restoration of Competency Program (ROC) at West Valley Detention Center. After an extensive screening process, prisoners deemed unable to stand trial will receive treatment at the jail's 20-bed unit, rather than sent to state hospitals. The new jail in Adelanto has opened, and there will be a new prison built in Apple Valley.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa announced that TEAM House will be getting a new secretary. DBH is currently recruiting or someone to replace Bob Sudol, Clubhouse Supervisor, who retired in December.

Commissioner Tanya Perry stated there was a large attendance at the County Vision Project meeting held in Big Bear. The SELPA workshop she attended with Dr. Casas provided a valuable handout on how to teach teachers to handle behaviors. The Big Bear Mental Health Alliance recently held a phone conference with Mike Schertell and Veronica Kelley, DBH Deputy Directors regarding the sustainability of the Alliance of Behavioral and Emotional Treatment (ABET) Program.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Monica Wilson attended an event in Rancho Cucamonga for at-risk youth and the Martin Luther King breakfast in Ontario. As a member of the CA Mental Health Planning Council, the Governor's Realignment proposal

was discussed during the Strategic Planning meeting. The Black History month celebration will take place at Cal State University on 2/11/11.

Commissioner Roberto Casas recently attended a workshop for educators sponsored by West End SELPA regarding early indicators of mental health and identifying symptoms and strategies. As a member of the Chino Community Service Commission he has also been evaluating Requests for Proposals (RFPs).

Fifth District:

Commissioner Veatrice Jews thanked CaSonya Thomas for attending the 1/25/11 5th DAC meeting. Everyone benefits from providing input. Veatrice invited everyone to attend the next DAC meeting to be held 3/29/11 at 5:30 p.m. at the New Hope Life Center to provide input on the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Capital Facilities Project. Dr. Woods, African American Health Institute and partners continue to work on the disparity project funded by the state. She has been working with the Patient Advocates Office to create a more user friendly website for general health and mental health care. Veatrice also thanked Benita Ramsey and Jonathan Buffong, DBH Community Liaisons for creating a community handout to decrease stigma.

Commissioner Jane Godager announced the Perris Hill Neighborhood Association was recently provided a tour of the new Juvenile Hall building being built in their neighborhood. She appreciated the interchange of ideas and mutual support provided during the recent 5th DAC meeting and invited all to attend the 3/29/11 meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Thomas thanked Commissioner Swift for acknowledging David Denkers, DBH Program Manager for his work in the High Desert. Since Bob Sudol's retirement, Manuel Aybar has been overseeing the clubhouses. There was a recent miscommunication issue; however, that has been resolved and Mr. Aybar has come up with a smooth process for purchasing clubhouse supplies. Mr. Aybar will meet with clubhouse Board members. A permanent replacement for Bob is still on our radar.

On 1/27/11 CalMHSA, of which Director Rawland is President, the Mental Health Services and Oversight Committee approved \$160 million in funding for MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Statewide Projects: Suicide Prevention, Stigma and Discrimination and Student Initiative. RFPs will be released throughout February.

Assistant Director Thomas acknowledged Mariann Ruffolo, MHSA Coordinator for organizing community meetings held to provide stakeholder input on the MHSA Annual Update Plan. The Plan will be posted for 30 day review and comment period from 2/28/11-3/30/11. The MHSA Annual Update Public Hearing will be held during the 4/7/10 Behavioral Health Commission meeting.

The final Countywide Vision Project meeting will be held in Colton this evening.

Healthcare Reform: County of San Bernardino will submit LIHP to expand Medi-Cal on 2/14/11.

FY 2010-2011 State and County Budget

The Governor's budget proposes to use \$861 million MHSA funding one-time for counties to fund EPSDT, AB3632 and Managed Care services.

On 10/8/10, the Governor vetoed AB3632 that mandates local county mental health to provide services to special needs children and youth. Allan, CaSonya, Mike Schertell and Tanya Bratton have been working cooperatively with county schools and SELPAs to transition services back to the schools by 1/31/11. DBH currently has 341 active AB3632 cases and 96 children in placement.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Building H Expansion by Andre Bossieux, Program Manager

Today we will have the first look of what the new TAY Crisis Residential Center will look like upon completion in March 2012, through a computer generated virtual tour. The facility will increase in size from 7200 to 29,000 square feet to include the same services currently provided, plus:

- 14 person (2 per room) crisis residential services for 30 day treatment and group therapy (staffed 24/7)
- kitchen and laundry facilities
- recreation area
- multi-purpose room

The TAY Advisory Board has been involved in the process since inception. This TAY site will be the first of its kind in the state, and is unique in that the building was already owned by the county. André works closely with Doug Fazekas, DBH Housing Manager, to assist with permanent supportive housing for TAYs.

Gwen Knotts commented that the new TAY Center has a feel of community ownership that can be shared by all. André stated that as we anticipate additional youth we will need community referral and linkage.

Upcoming Special Presentations include:

- 3/3/11: County and District Demographics and Related Data by Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director Program Services and Keith Harris, Manager Research and Evaluation
- 4/7/11: Inland Valley Recovery Services by Pamela Nichols, Youth Services Coordinator
- 5/5/11: County of San Bernardino Cultural Competency Plan by Veronica Kelley, Cultural Competence Officer
- 6/7/11: Jail Mental Health Services by Teri Self, Program Manager, Adult Forensic Services

NEW BUSINESS

No items were discussed

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Benita Ramsey announced that during February, DBH will host African American mental health celebrations at the clubhouses and TAY centers.

Lynn Neuenswander announced that Director Rawland will provide a presentation at the Cal State Behavioral Health Symposium on 2/18/11. She also announced that DBH submitted 6 nominations for NACo Awards on 2/4/11.

Through an MHSA Innovation project, the DBH Online Diverse Community Experience is now available on Facebook and Twitter providing services, resources and helps viewers stay connected and share.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission